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22 December 1965

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CONTENTS

-
2. Dominican Republic: Current situation report.
(Page 4)
 3. Rhodesia: Kaunda again threatening stern measures against Smith regime. (Page 5)
 4. Pakistan: Foreign Minister Bhutto may soon leave his post. (Page 6)
 5. Turkey-Cyprus: Turks seeking to redress balance after UN "defeat." (Page 7)
 6. Common Market: Five hold to firm position toward Paris. (Page 8)
 7. Notes: Indonesia; Congo (Brazzaville); Syria;
 Spain. (Page 9)

25X1

25X1

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Next 4 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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*Dominican Republic: Tension remains high in Santo Domingo and rival Dominican elements are poised to react to whatever action the President takes as retribution for Sunday's firefight in Santiago.

[Heavily armed police patrols which clashed with roving bands of youthful troublemakers yesterday now have been instructed to maintain order in the capital, using firepower if necessary. The police are said to be in a grim mood following the killing yesterday of a popular police lieutenant by suspected members of the fanatical Dominican Popular Movement. The efficiency of the police, however, has been reduced by the presence of former rebel policemen in most patrols and the ability of Caamano's 27th of February Camp to monitor all police calls.]

Labor and political leaders, who called for a general strike on 20 December to force government action against police and military officials, have reportedly told the President they will wait until the three-man investigating committee reports tomorrow before giving the strike their full support.

President Garcia Godoy emphasized to Ambassador Bunker yesterday that people throughout the country expect him to take prompt action against those responsible for the Santiago tragedy. Should the committee indict military officers, Garcia Godoy feels that the military *would* [will] unite to oppose any punitive action against one of their own.

The Dominican Republic has now experienced almost a solid week of violent disorders which have seriously set back the President's efforts to unify the country peacefully. With each new outbreak the President's room to reach a compromise solution shrinks and it appears that ^{unless he soon exercises} ~~he will soon be forced either to exercise~~ stronger control ^{he will} ~~or to quickly~~ lose all semblance of authority.

Rhodesia: [Zambian President Kaunda is again threatening stern measures against the rebel Rhodesian regime.]

25X1

[In talks with US and UK officials on 20 December, Kaunda threatened a complete trade break with Rhodesia unless Smith rescinds the five pound per ton surcharge on coal exports to Zambia. Kaunda prefaced his remarks with an expression of the need to ensure an alternate coal supply prior to a break. British reminders of the grave danger to the Zambian economy of such action at this time appear to have calmed Kaunda for the moment. The US Embassy in Lusaka notes that the danger of precipitous action by Kaunda remains very great, however.]

[Kaunda has rejected the offer of Burke Knapp, a representative from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), to have an IBRD inspection team stationed at the Kariba power plant unless it includes non-Rhodesian troop protection on the Rhodesian side of the Kariba dam.]

[Rhodesian Prime Minister Smith had previously informed the representative that he would welcome an IBRD inspection team but could not accept an offer of bank management or guards for the hydroelectric complex. However, following a second talk with Smith after his visit to Kaunda, Knapp said he was "somewhat optimistic" and expected to return after a short visit to London. Knapp still feels the bank may have a useful role in resolving management problems in the joint Rhodesian-Zambian Power Authority and some problems of debt servicing by the power corporation.]

[In Britain, the opposition Conservative leadership reportedly has decided not to challenge the oil embargo, but has served notice that it would oppose any resort to force. Party leader Heath still is trying to preserve a bipartisan approach, but he is under growing pressure from right-wingers in the party who sympathize with the white Rhodesians.]

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Pakistan: [There is increasing speculation in Pakistan that Foreign Minister Bhutto, the architect of Pakistan's "independent" foreign policy, may soon leave his post.]

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[Bhutto lacks a political base of his own, but his foreign policy has won him extensive popularity among the educated elite and leftist groups. He may believe that a dramatic resignation over an issue with considerable emotional appeal in Pakistan will give him the support necessary for an independent political career.]

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Turkey-Cyprus: The Turks regard the Cyprus resolution passed by the UN General Assembly last week as a major diplomatic defeat and appear to be seeking some way to redress the balance.

Following passage of the resolution which in effect denies Turkey's right to intervene in the Cyprus dispute, there has been growing acceptance in both popular and official circles for the use of force to uphold Turkey's national interests on the island. The US defense attaché in Ankara reports that an unusual gathering of military leaders in Istanbul may be updating long-standing contingency plans for military intervention in Cyprus. Previously scheduled amphibious exercises now under way in the Iskenderun area could provide a cover for action against Cyprus, but there is no indication that such a move is imminent.

Anti-Greek feelings have again been aroused, and isolated incidents against Turkey's Greek minority, especially in Istanbul, could result.

25X1

22 Dec 65

7

25X1

Common Market: [The Five, at their first meeting since the French elections, held to their firm but conciliatory position toward Paris.]

[At the extraordinary session of the council on 20 December, they agreed to await a "formal and official" French response to their invitation to a special council meeting without the EEC Commission. Council president Colombo apparently is to inform the French that the Five would agree to a French proposal to hold such a meeting in Luxembourg on 13-14 January.]

[The Five reaffirmed that at such a session they would support the existing treaties and reject extreme French demands which would vitiate the majority voting principle. Apparently in response to indications that Paris will seek to undermine the commission by changes in its personnel, the Five agreed that they would not ratify merger of the executives of the three communities--EEC, Euratom, and Coal-Steel--without prior agreement on the new commission's membership.]

[It is still uncertain whether the Five are willing to proceed--without the French, if necessary--on the community budgets and tariff measures by the end of this year. Colombo, however, is instructed to tell the French it would "facilitate" a six-nation meeting if the French would go along with the community on these matters. Adjustments in the Euratom research budget may have been "quietly negotiated" by the permanent representatives, including the French, thus easing the way for French acceptance of the budgets.]

25X1

22 Dec 65

8

NOTES

Indonesia: President Sukarno's prestige continues to decline. For the first time his speeches have not been broadcast--even in abbreviated form--on the Indonesian radio. In an apparent attempt to ward off charges that the army's growing political activity is "reactionary" in nature, Defense Minister Nasution on 20 December delivered a strong attack on "neocolonialism" in which he criticized the US, Britain, and Malaysia. The army has now banned the PKI in two additional regions.

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Congo (Brazzaville): Most of the 200-300 Cubans now in Brazzaville are training paramilitary forces, according to the Belgian chargé in Brazzaville. While most of those receiving training are Brazzaville Congolese, some of the guerrillas are being prepared to operate against such areas as the Portuguese enclave of Cabinda. The chargé noted that the Cubans were maintaining close ties with the Soviet Embassy in Brazzaville and not with the Chinese Communists.

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Syria: President Hafiz and the civilian-backed moderate faction of the Baathist regime apparently have moved against the more radical military elements in Damascus. The Baath international organization in Damascus--which is dominated by the Hafiz faction--yesterday dissolved both the Syrian cabinet and the party's Syrian regional command, which had come under the control of the radical group. The international organization announced that it would govern "until further notice." Tensions have been rising within the regime for some time, and continued infighting seems certain.

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25X1

25X1

Spain: [Spanish officials have informed the US Embassy that it will not be possible to acquire land the US needs for expansion of the space tracking station at Maspalomas in the Canary Islands. The officials also said existing facilities must eventually be moved from the present site. They tied conclusion of an agreement on relocation to a firm US undertaking to provide financial and technical assistance for Spain's own fledgling space program.]

22 Dec 65

10

25X1

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